

Negation of the Negation



Catechism of a 21st Century

Abolitionist

“Very few men imprisoned for economic crimes or even crimes of passion against the oppressor, feel they are really guilty.”

-- George Jackson, Field Marshall of Prisons and General of the Black Panther Party

“I’m suggesting we abolish the social function of prisons.”

--Comrade Angela Davis

A. Northwest Ordinance of 1787:

There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted. Provided, always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

B. 13th Amendment to US Constitution of 1865:

Article A. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in the United States, except as a punishment for a crime whereof the party has been duly convicted.

C. Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948:

Article 4. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

1.What is slavery?

Slavery is a system for the extraction of labor where the person enslaved is either uncompensated or remunerated at a rate below the standard or market exchange rate for the exact same labor. Slavery was a universal system of production that arose with the negation of primitive communal societies; it is the first stage of the capitalist order.

2.How and why did slavery become a “peculiar institution”?

Slavery was commonly imposed on those classes that lacked property or power; it was also inflicted as “war booty” on conquered peoples and prisoners of war. Slavery was also a levy for the repayment of debts or a punishment for a crime. When the European imperial powers needed a labor force to colonize and settle in what they called, the “New World”, they created pseudo-racist philosophies that viewed Africans as inferior sub-humans and beasts of burden, introducing practices to permanently enslave darker peoples with special emphasis on anyone retaining even a drop of African blood. Hence, although all nationalities and races were once subject to the ravages of slavery, due to law and custom

in the United States of America being Black became synonymous with being a slave.

3. When did slavery arrive in the territory now known as the United States of America?

The arrival of the first “Africanized” slaves occurred with the colonization of the new territories now known as the United States of America, on the first day of Black August in 1619, at Jamestown, Virginia. From the moment “Africanized” slaves arrived into the new territories, they began to rebel by either challenging the contradictions of Christian culture or escaping into the wilderness, joining Native tribes and waging incessant war against the racist colonizers.

4. Is it true that the Africanized slaves were docile, accepting their fate?

Absolutely, emphatically not! The African captive immediately went into battle mode, even long before touching the shores of North America. The majority died during the “Middle Passage” rather than suffer the indignity of slavery. The captured, condemned slave formed “maroon” societies in the mountains and woods. The rebel slave waged incessant guerilla war on the colonial powers.

5. But history says slaves were “good negroes” for the master–class, does it not?

Yes, but this is a false history designed to “negro-ize” the captive to give the appearance of passivity and inferiority. This was

done to denigrate the humanity of descendants of slaves and deny the fact of any positive or progressive contribution to history, other than being a servant to a superior, master race and class (who built everything with slave labor).

6. Was the war between the States (Civil War) fought to end slavery?

No, ole Dishonest Abe (Abraham Lincoln), the slavemaster-in-chief, always made it clear that he did not desire to end slavery, but only sought to maintain the union of the states. Conversely, it was actually the southern confederacy that initiated war between the states. This was due to the competition posed by the northern industrialists by introducing embargos, forming international alliances, and encouraging disenchantment amongst the slaves. The rebellious slave had always been a burden on the American Republic with over 100,000 fleeing between 1810 and 1860. The war between the states was simply a competition between competing capitals – agrarianism and industrialism.

7. So, what then were the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment?

The Emancipation Proclamation was a war strategy. It lacked the authority to free even a single slave, as the ten states in which it was proclaimed, were also rebel states. Instead it was deployed as a military tactic to recruit rebellious slaves to the union army (over 200,000) and encourage other rebellions in the confederated states, disrupting the slave power. The 13th Amendment, on the other

hand, was an adaptation of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. This law, the Northwest Ordinance, contained a fugitive slave clause in support of the slave states and continued slavery in the so-called free-states as a punishment for a crime upon conviction. Slavery or the Slave Codes continued in all of the states long after the so-called American Revolution and Civil War. Slavery has continued in the United States to this day.

8. Are you implying that slavery has continued into the 21st Century in the United States of America?

Comrade Abolitionist, I imply nothing! Slavery, by any other name, is slavery!!! In the United States of America, slavery is the supreme law of the land. It is constituted under the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, a mere redaction of the Northwest Ordinance. The 13th Amendment violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which prohibits slavery in all of its forms. The Prison/Slave Industrial Complex is a massive institution which is the chief instrument of repression in the United States.

9. What then is the Prison/Slave Industrial Complex?

The Prison/Slave Industrial Complex (PSIC) is a special institution of repression, control, and exploitation administered by the capitalist state. The state itself is an organ of class rule; it is a product of the irreconcilability of class antagonisms. The ruling class employing the machinery of the state, uses "due process of law," by means of its criminal justice system, to manipulate "lumpenized" classes into the Prison/Slave Industrial Complex. This

renders all crime, whether a crime of passion, compulsion, or habit to be a product of pre-existing and prevailing socio-economic conditions prevalent to any urban development. The Prison/Slave Industrial Complex comprises all areas of production and control, from the criminal courts to prison facilities, but includes parole and probation departments and other custodial and monitorial systems. The "PSIC" is the primary vehicle for the continuation of the racist and universal enslavement of the poor and minorities; it lowers the value of labor, and constitutes a vast reserve army of labor.

10. What can we do, Comrade Abolitionist, to abolish slavery?

Slavery is an abomination! International Law demands all nations to abolish slavery in all of its forms. The ruling class must accept the repeal of the 13th Amendment and adopt Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It must end hypocritical, unjust policies and laws that enslave the poor, disenfranchised, minorities, immigrants, and other lumpenized groups. The people must forget their differences and unite to fight slavery; we must demand reparations for historical and contemporary slavery; support the New Underground Railroad; demand enforcement of international law; donate, contribute, and fight slavery by any means necessary. Assist the Negation as primary force in the battle to end slavery and all forms of human bondage.

Such is the Catechism of the 21st Century Abolitionist!

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“My paramount object in this struggle *is* to save the Union, and is *not* either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing *any* slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing *all* the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that. What I do about slavery, and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union.”

--President Abraham Lincoln

“I freed a thousand slaves. I would have freed a thousand more, if they only knew they were slaves.”

--Conductor General Harriet Tubman